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that portion of Scotland which lies between the Forth and Clyde on the north, and the English Border, is in the proud position of having reared a larger number of famous men in the later Victorian era than any other stretch of country of equal size." Other conclusions are "that agricultural districts are usually richer in great men than manufacturing or mining parts." And that, "if a line be drawn through the centre of Lincolnshire, it will be found that the poetry of the nation is to the southern side of that division"; it being regarded that, with a few notable exceptions, music, poetry, and art reach their highest development in the south, while theology, science, and engineering predominate in higher latitudes. J. J.

Facts and Opinions relating to the Deaf, from America. ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL. London. 8vo, pp. 196.

This report to the Royal Commission of the British Government to inquire into the condition of the deaf, is of great value to students of this interesting class of defectives. Five questions are treated, mainly by the statistical method and the collation of the opinions of experts. 1. Visible speech. The fact that of 31 institutions in which it has been introduced it has been continued in only 17, argues against its universal applicability. 2. The development of latent powers of hearing in the partially deaf is ably discussed, with the result that the future holds out bright prospects in this direction. 3. The most important topic is that of the heredity of the deaf-mute as a class. Here the experience of superintendents of asylums goes to reducing the evil effects of intermarriage, some holding that the additional happiness thus brought about is more than a compensation for the slightly increased chances of a deaf offspring; others holding that consanguinity is a more potent factor than deaf-mutism, while still others make a difference between the congenitally deaf and those who become so later in life. The scientists, on the other hand, are unanimous in their agreement with Prof. Bell's position that the marriage of the deaf-mute with the deaf-mute is an ever increasing factor in the production of deaf-mutism, and that, if continued, it must end in establishing a deaf-mute variety of the human species. 4 and 5. Under these heads various usages and modes of instruction of different schools are summarized. J. J.

A Method of Examining Children in Schools as to their Development and Brain Condition. FRANCIS WARNER. Brit. Med. Jour., Sept. 22, 1888.

In the rapid observation of children in these particulars, very much can be learned by attention to two classes of facts: "(a) the form, proportions, and texture of the visible parts of the body; and (b) the signs of action of the central nerve-system, as seen in the muscles producing movements or attitudes or balances of nerve-muscular action." The first shows the development and nutrition; and in the condition of the special features often lie indications of mental weakness. The second shows, in variations from the normal, nerve-muscle weakness, fatigue, and excitability. Besides such things as these and starvation, the doctor has found hare-lip, congenital cyanosis, rickets of the skull, brain disease with congenital syphilis, all grades of idiots, and, with the help of the teacher, *petit mal*. In the Day Industrial School, of Liverpool, 14 per cent of the